MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know the purpose of fixing the ceiling price for coir?

PRESIDENT: If we do not fix, the Government of India will not buy. The obvious point is that they say they want coir goods, and that they are not prepared to pay more than a particular amount. The Government, even in spite of the war, make a difference between one thing and the other; for instance, for aero-dromes they may be willing to spend Rs. 70 lakhs though Rs. 3 lakhs would be enough. I do not blame anybody for that, but that is a position. They declined to pay more than a certain price for coir. If we have to hand over the goods at a certain price without fixing a ceiling price, we cannot fulfil the contract which the Government have entered into. That is the reason for fixing the ceiling price.

I hope what I have said will be regarded not as a reproach but as an incentive for Mr. Mahomed and his friends.

Export of coir goods.

213. *MR. P. S. MAHOMED: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to restrict the export of coir goods by merchants?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: No further restrictions are proposed.

Municipal Council, Quilon.

214. *MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRY: Will the Government be pleased

(*a*) to lay on the table a statement, by caste, of the members of the Municipal Council, Quilon; and

(*b*) to state the total number of nominated members in the said Council?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Statement, by caste, of non-official members of the Municipal Council, Quilon.

S. No.	*Caste.*	*Number.*
1.	*Hindus.*	
	(i) Brahmins	1
	(ii) Nairs	7
	(iii) Ezhavas	3
	(iv) Thandan	1
	(v) Pulaya	1
	(vi) Goldsmith	1
2.	*Christians*	1
3.	*Muhammadans*	5

(*b*) 2.

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